

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 21-56 remain pending.

Claim Amendments

New claims 54-55 are added directed to the species of sublimed sulfur and the amino acid proline. Support for these new claims resides at page 4, line 13 and page 8, lines 2-3, respectively. New claim 56 is directed to a composition comprised of the elected species. No new matter is added by this amendment.

Election of Species Requirement

The Examiner requires applicants to elect a species from the following for purposes of examination: source of copper, salicylic acid or derivative thereof, source of manganese, source of iron, source of sulfur, source of zinc, and amino acid(s).

In response, applicants elect the following species:

Source of copper:	Copper orotate
Source of manganese:	Manganese orotate
Source of iron:	Iron orotate
Source of zinc:	Zinc orotate
Salicylic acid derivative:	Sodium salicylate
Sulfur:	Sublimed sulfur
Amino acid:	Proline

In further response, applicants inform the Examiner that at least claims 1, 21-26, 28-34, 36, and 46-56 read on the elected species.

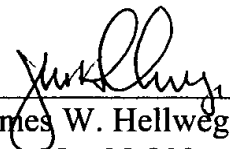
Favorable consideration and allowance of all claims is earnestly solicited.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Very truly yours,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

By



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